

# THE LACLEDE BLADE

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## Every Farmers Opportunity

It is gratifying to note the tendency of Linn county farmers to improve the grade of stock on their farms. It is no uncommon thing hereabouts to find registered stuff or stuff eligible to register listed in farm sales. There are now dozens of breeders of purebred stock in this vicinity where up to the last few years there were none.

There is no possible reason why farmers and stockmen should waste their time and tie up and jeopardize their capital in the purchase and feeding or breeding of inferior stock. The supremacy of the better bred animals is practically infallible. They, other conditions being equal, will yield dependable profit which are as certain as the coming of day after a night of gloom. It does not take much capital for any farmer, be he the owner of few head of stock or possessor of extensive flocks and herds, to begin improvement work to better his live stock resources. All that is necessary is that he purchase and use purebred sires in the grading up and betterment of progeny.

## The Sparrows And Their Berries

Have you ever been awakened in the morning by the noise of a hundred shipping sparrows breaking off the red berries on a mountain ash tree?

The noise is cheerful if not musical and they seem to be holding a thanksgiving service out of pure enjoyment and passing a vote of thanks.

They are not worrying about future supplies of berries and seem utterly oblivious of where the berries came from or how nature supplied them.

They remind us of the labor agitators holding noisy meetings discussing industries and condemning their sources of employment.

The labor agitator has as little connection with the source from which employment flows as the sparrows have with their supply of berries.

Nature supplies the sparrows with berries just as stored capital and experienced brains plan industries and make employment possible.

The sparrows and the agitators enjoy making the big noise and eating the berries which they do not provide.

## The Principle Involved

The American people struggled for a quarter of a century to bring capital into subjection to the rights of the public. They have defeated the efforts of capital to dictate. They now face an effort at dictation in the name of labor, which is as contemptuous of the rights of the public as capital was formerly. The spirit of the oft-quoted "public be damned" epigram is just as apparent in the present conduct of labor as it was formerly in that of capital. The public is just as determined not to be damned by labor as it was not to be damned by capital. When labor comes with a threat to tie up the railroads, to extinguish the steel furnaces and to cut off the fuel supply with winter at hand unless its demands are conceded, the people recognize it as an attempt to hold up the United States, and they will fight.

In taking this attitude the people do not oppose labor unions as such; they oppose only a leadership with revolutionary aims and contempt of contracts. They are

no more desirous of breaking up corporations when capital became arrogant.

The protest is against the effort of any class, any minority, to ride roughshod over the whole nation in assertion of its pretended rights and in contempt of the rights of majority. Within those limitations there is abundant room for the activity of labor unions.

A non-union laborer and American citizen has just as much right to a job as a union man who is or is not a citizen, and visa versa.

The "closed shop" theory is contrary to every principle of our form of government and is just as contrary to our American guarantee of individual rights and liberty, as would be the recognition of a principle in America that a man had to belong to a specified church or lodge before he was given a job.

## He Pays The Price

From the Baldwin Ledger.

In vetoing the congressional enactment for the enforcement of war time prohibition, President Wilson has paid his debt to the liquor interests.

He has likewise eliminated himself as a presidential possibility; for, while he fooled thousands of women on the kept-us-out of war fiasco, the mask is now off.

At best he could only hope to give these outlaws about six weeks of debauch, but they demanded their "pound of flesh" and got it. With what great function and lifting of eyes heavenward did he pose as the leader who would show America to the world as the champion of morality. With trembling lips he pleaded that we must not "break the heart of the world." And yet he goes out of his way to let men be beastial and break the hearts of women who for years have prayed for the day when our nation would be sober and clothed in her right mind.

If there ever was a time in the history of this country when men should be able to do clear thinking it is during these days when suspicion, distrust and anarchy look at us with fiery eyes from every industrial center.

Woodrow Wilson has sold his birthright for a "mess of porridge" and made a whole nation stand aghast with astonishment. Constitutional prohibition goes into effect on the 16th of January and this attempt at prolongation of the revel is proof positive to congress that the gates of hell will swing wide open. These fiends will use every power within their grasp to defeat the will of the people.

Let congress be on guard.

The president entered the world war with the greatest opportunity for good since the days of Abraham Lincoln but he will go out of office the most discredited public official since the time of Benedict Arnold.

## CALIFORNIA'S BIG TREES.

Authorities on the subject who have examined the big trees of California, declare that they have grown more than 4,000 years. They were growing when the pyramids of Egypt were built, they were old trees when Rome was founded and had been growing for centuries when Columbus set out on the voyage that proved so important. Some of the ruins of Greece and Assyria, of course, antedate these trees, but no growing things. If man's greed would spare these trees they would doubtless live for hundreds of years to come, for the ordinary forest fire has no effect upon them. They are, however, wanted for timber.

The Chinese are asking for American seed to plant. On the theory that men are what they eat, it would be a good idea to supply this seed in bulk as the easiest way to Americanize the orientals.

## WAR-TIME ENTHUSIASM OF LAST YEAR REVIVED

General Pershing Is Among Prominent Speakers Who Are Devoting Energies to Red Cross in Roll Call Behalf.

With the inception of the Third Red Cross Roll Call, Sunday, November 2, the opening day was observed as "Red Cross Sunday" in thousands of churches throughout Missouri, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma, and a vast force of men and women workers began the task of garnering Red Cross memberships for the coming year.

Clergymen, in pulpits of all denominations, referred to the humanitarian attributes of the Red Cross in sermons prepared especially for the occasion and Red Cross tributes, in some instances, augmented the usual morning and evening devotional services.

Preliminary reports reaching campaign managers in each state indicate an increasing volume of interest in the drive that augurs well for its successful conclusion. The quota for the Southwestern Division is set at 2,000,000 members, while the nation-wide campaign has for its objective the attainment of 20,000,000 members. Officials in charge of the drive expect the Southwestern Division to exceed its quota by 500,000, and stateotas have been assigned on this basis. The quotas follow: Missouri, 700,000; Kansas, 400,000; Texas, 800,000; Arkansas, 200,000; Oklahoma, 400,000.

The opening of the drive found the Red Cross organization, which slowly has been mobilizing for months, ready for the job in hand. In a manner that recalls vividly the war-time enthusiasm of a year ago uniformed women workers magically have appeared in each city, town and county, to solicit memberships. A house-to-house canvass is now being carried on.

## Women Workers Re-enlisting.

Groups of women whose services were rendered so generously during the war have re-enlisted. Canteen workers, nurses and nurses' aids, motor transport corps workers, surgical dressing workers, knitters and garment workers, all are asked to extend their efforts again to the utmost to help establish the Red Cross firmly upon a peace basis.

Thousands of clubs and fraternal organizations will observe a "Red Cross" day during Roll Call week by special luncheons, dinners and meetings, at which speakers will tell the story of the Red Cross and its future. In many cases motion pictures illustrative of its work will be shown.

## Former Fighters Help.

Returned soldiers, sailors and marines have enlisted in large numbers to assist in the campaign, grateful for the manifold comforts and services provided for them by the Red Cross. As members of the American Legion and as individuals, thousands of returned "Yanks" and "gobs" will become volunteer canvassers for Red Cross memberships during Roll Call, up to its close, on Armistice Day, November 11. In some places veterans of the world war are directing the campaign. All such workers will be in uniform.

Permission has been granted to all present and former Red Cross workers to wear their regulation Red Cross uniforms while engaged in campaign work. This permission applies to all nurses, foreign service workers, field service directors, canteen, motor corps and chapter workers.

One of the most remarkable mobilizations of speaking talent that has ever volunteered for an effort of this kind will go into action for the duration of the drive. Former American ambassadors, high Army officers, Cabinet officials, a flying squadron of Red Cross overseas nurses and other workers, State Governors, members of Congress, clergymen, editors, business men, returned fighters and even laborers, will speak in behalf of the Red Cross during Roll Call week.

## General Pershing to Speak

Foremost among those who have volunteered is General Pershing. Others are Former Ambassador to Germany, James W. Gerard, and former Ambassador to Turkey, Abram I. Elkus. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer has consented to give whatever spare moments he has to making Red Cross appeals, and other members of the Cabinet are being called upon.

Women of national prominence are out on speaking tours for the Roll Call, notably Miss Isabel T. Boardman, of the Central Committee of the American Red Cross, Mrs. Larr Anderson, of Boston, and Dr. Esther C. Lovejoy, of Portland, Oregon. Red Cross nurses, many of them decorated for bravery overseas, are speaking in the interests of the peace-time health program of the Red Cross.

Third Red Cross Roll Call, Nov. 2-11.

For farm loans see Z. R. Kling, Laclede.

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